

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A progressive display is realized that has an electrode structure in which two neighboring rows share a display electrode. A PDP has display electrodes arranged so that two neighboring rows share one electrode for display, and the display electrodes crosses an address electrode in each column. A row selection is performed by temporarily biasing one display electrode  $Y_j$  of the electrode pair corresponding to the selected row to the selecting potential  $V_y$ , while an addressing is performed by controlling the potential of the address electrode  $A_k$  in accordance with the display data. At that time, the cell-selecting voltage  $V_{ay}$  that is applied to the interelectrode  $AY$  between the display electrode  $Y_j$  and the address electrode  $A_k$  made lower than the discharge starting voltage  $V_{AY}$  of the interelectrode  $AY$ . A row selection voltage  $V_{xy}$  that is lower than the discharge starting voltage  $V_{xy}$  is applied to the interelectrode  $XY$  between the display electrodes of the electrode pair corresponding to the selected row, so that an address discharge is generated.